



King County  
Developmental Disabilities Division  
**King County Interagency Coordinating Council**  
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**King County Interagency Coordinating Council**  
**MINUTES**  
**January 13, 2003**

**Voting Members Present**

Cheryl Buettemeier  
Jane Campbell  
Sandy Duncan  
Aileen Hammar  
Marianna Klon  
Adrienne Ohno  
Gusty-Lee Boulware  
Kari Tanta  
Becky Thibodeaux  
Charlene Robbins

**Representing**

Developmental Center  
Region 4 DDD  
Early Identification Service  
Medical Community  
DDD Board  
Child Care Community  
Higher Education  
Medical Community  
Public Health Department  
Parent

**Employer**

Boyer Children's Clinic  
DSHS, DDD  
Children's Health Access Program  
Children's Hospital Medical Center  
  
Child Care Resources  
University of Washington EEU  
Valley Medical Center  
Seattle King County Public Health

**Community Members**

Maura Berndsen	Listen and Talk
Laura Blankinship	DDD Board
Denise Castillo	Listen and Talk
Gary Waddington	Shield Health Care
Cassie Johnston	Parent Participation, Washington PAVE
Ann Maxwell	Children's Country Home
Cathy Murahashi	King County Parent Coalition
Cheryl Nelson	Denise Louie Education Center (Special Needs/Mental Health)
Jane Place	Childhaven
Rhonda Ra'shahid	ARC of King County
Kevin St. Jacques	Seattle Vet Center
<u>Judy Vanderwerf</u>	Family Resources Northwest
<u>Meenoo Yashar</u>	Ryther Child Center

**Staff Present**

Rachel Petty  
Kathy Svinth  
Jan Wrathall

Sandy Duncan will be chairing on behalf of Susan Sandall.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Motion made and seconded to approve the December 2002 minutes.

### **Community Announcements & ICC Member Reports**

- The Twelfth Annual Best of the Northwest Conference sponsored by the Autism Society of Washington is being held on March 28 and 29, 2003 at the Doubletree City Center in Spokane. Go to [www.autismsocietyofwa.org](http://www.autismsocietyofwa.org) for conference and other information. Conference has limited space and some scholarships may be available for parents. (Marianna Klon)
- The 2003 Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) Annual Conference is on April 9-12<sup>th</sup> in Seattle. Go to [www.cec.sped.org](http://www.cec.sped.org) Maura Berndsen will send a flyer to Sandy Duncan to distribute.
- Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center is offering a one day conference on "Meeting the Needs of Children with Feeding Tubes." Dates are: February 27<sup>th</sup> - Lynnwood; April 30 - Vancouver, WA; June 6 - Moses Lake. Call Jennifer Strobel at 206-987-5706 x 3 to sign up. Intended for parents and professionals. (Sandy Duncan)
- "Cochlear Implants and Implantable Hearing Technology", The Listen for Life Innovations Forum, Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup>. This is a day long workshop. Please call 206-341-0948 for more information or to sign up. Intended for parents or professionals. (Sandy Duncan)
- Higher Education forum: "Continuing the Dialogue on Pre-Service Training Issues," on February 20, 2003, from 8:30-3:30 in the Sea-Tac area. The forum, planned by the Personnel and Training Committee of the State Interagency Coordinating Council and sponsored by the Infant Toddler Early Intervention Program (ITEIP), is designed to provide an opportunity for dialogue on important issues in the preparation of personnel in early intervention. For other trainings, please check the website at: <http://depts.washington.edu/pandt/index.html> (Cassie Johnston).
- Lead FRC  
Sandy Duncan
  - The Family Resource Coordinator (FRC) training on December 3<sup>rd</sup> topic was on IFSPs and natural environments. Nicki Gael who did a fabulous job presented the training. It would be helpful to have this as part of the State FRC training or at least locally in King County annually.
  - The upcoming FRC training on January 30<sup>th</sup> related to funding sources, barriers/successes for FRCs and their job. This is a new time from 12:30-1:30pm.
  - In surveying the best times for FRCs for trainings, it has varied considerably. The new time is a compromise between FRC preferences.

○ Legislative update

Cathy Murahashi

- Legislative Session began today. In context of the budget cuts, Developmental Disabilities did not do as bad as other areas. Unfortunately, there is no new funding, for family support and birth to three but they did not receive a cut. \$13 million was cut to sheltered workshops. Thus, there is no place for many of these clients to go during the day; they could end up staying at home.
- Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) policy about the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) (policy 71A) has significant changes that may include: 1) redefining who is eligible for DDD (ie. Physical disabilities for children may be cut); 2) going toward a health and safety model rather than a habilitation model. The policy has not been approved yet. It is at the Governor's office and would need to be approved by the legislature. It is not clear what the final version will look like or when public comment would be requested or integrated. Advocates were not consulted during the drafting of the bill. It is important to go to legislators and ask for public input. Cassie Johnston also noted that eligibility may be accomplished through functional assessments. The Family Leadership Team is developing a fact sheet to give to legislators.
- The Children's Alliance quick overview of the proposed cuts to social services (handout available) shows cuts to dental, hearing and vision services. Children are prioritized, but single people are ineligible for most of Basic Health. Six month, rather than 12 month eligibility now (with less personnel) and stricter documentation of income are some changes.

Rachel Petty, Children's Alliance Public Policy Committee

- As noted at the meeting on January 10<sup>th</sup>, the one page handout is a quick summary draft and updated versions will be available. The Children's Administration took the second largest cut of any state division. The Children's Block Grant moves many programs under one category with no line item or administrative controls on what programs, or if programs, receive funding. The block grant was designed to give more 'flexibility' to funding allotments. However, constituents that would normally be in favor of block grants are weary of this current block grant because there are few stated controls over these monies that would be administrated solely by DSHS with no input or advisory council from the public or other stakeholders. Some programs do not want to be a part of this block grant for fear they may not be given any funding at the discretion of the administrators.

Also noted is the Legislative reception in Lacey on January 21<sup>st</sup>. This is a DD Council sponsored event. Encouraged to call and tell your legislator that you would like them to attend too. For ARC legislative updates, contact [grier@arcofwa.org](mailto:grier@arcofwa.org).

## **Guest Presentation**

### *Conversation with Families*

Cassie Johnston presented on the October 10 and 19<sup>th</sup> events. A report was available and summarizes the general themes from families experiences with early intervention in King County. Family perspectives are brought to the State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) through these events. The Conversation with Families began 6 yrs ago to bring forth parent concerns, issues and barriers, as well as strengths and strategies for improvement. The premise was to have parents, providers and administrators collaborate together for strategies and solutions. The Family Leadership Team helps to bring some of these strategies into functional form. Currently, an annual State event (approximately 70 people) provide input at the State level and local events are offered when requested by the local jurisdictions. Two years ago, the State offered to coordinate these events for county levels - to help local providers and administrators improve their local system.

The information from the two October 2002 events in King County will be used to create the 3 year plan for the KCICC. A summary of these two events was available (also on the website: <http://www.metrokc.gov/dchs/ddd/KCICC/KCICCintro.htm>.) Note that these events are one avenue for gaining information from families. Continuing with various and broader ways to gain family perspectives is important.

Cassie Johnston is the primary coordinator and facilitator of these events. The KCICC members and community serve as group facilitators. In King County, the perspectives of the strengths and weaknesses appear varied and diverse. However, depending on where services were offered, different areas of the county could play a role in these variations. (See summary for specifics.) A multi-language event is needed. King County DDD is working with the ARC of King County Ethnic Outreach Team to bring such an event together.

The other major themes were public awareness (especially in hospital and physician offices) and access. The KCICC also noted:

- Need for public service announcements for illiterate clients.
- Continued announcements on the web/internet.
- Multi-language information.
- Need for referrals.
- Sandy Duncan is chairing a ChildFind task force brainstorming with child care providers, public health nurses, and Child Care Resources to formulate a 3 year plan for ChildFind activities which will be brought back to the KCICC in March.
- Other public communication with medical community (ie. Skagit County - periodically given to physician offices, just difficult with the quantity of physicians in King County. It could be at least a start.
- Waiting lists are an issue that need to be resolved.
- Grand Rounds at hospitals may be useful, but may take 6-12 months to be on the schedule. However, it would be worthwhile to be on the schedule.

- King County used to send out information to physicians, but there was very little response. Face-to-face contact may be needed instead.
- Goal would be to do annual and consistent public awareness actions at county level. Also have a physician 'tip booklet'.
- Many families receive a Medicaid coupon but do not know what to do with it. A solution may include working more with Medicaid/state issues.
- Connect with Parent to Parent and hospitals to reach other physicians and hospitals not currently 'at the table'.
- Outreach to providers - need to build on relationships with physicians. Check with the Medical Home program for ideas.

Cassie emphasized that it is now up to the leadership role of KCICC to implement and improve system. The KCICC is encouraged to formulate specific outcomes for families and a priority list to bring to the 3 year planning process meeting to be held early in the spring.

### **Guest Presentation**

#### *Parent Satisfaction Survey*

Kathy Svinth, Contract Monitor, from King County Developmental Disabilities Division stated that the county was out of compliance according to the last State Audit around September 2001. One of those areas was not sending out a parent survey. Although some providers had completed surveys of their own, not all providers had done so. Therefore, in Fall 2002 each contracted provider received a sample letter and survey (survey from State Infant Toddler Early Intervention Program - ITEIP), paid stamped envelope for each family, and random sample list of families from each providing agency. One-third of the surveys were received back. (The outcome of these results were available as handouts. Verbatim family comments were attached with actual names replaced. For a copy, please contact Kathy Svinth at 206-205-6338). Overall, many families do not understand the DD system, county DDD, and physician's role.

The results validate the Conversation with Families summary. Primary issues: difficult learning about services, availability of a person to talk with, choice of FRC not given (did not know difference between FRC and other providers), not given choice of who would evaluate child, inconsistent communication/public awareness and training of personnel, and no knowledge of KCICC. Information about all the various DSHS, DDD and ITEIP departments would be helpful for families to better understand the structure of the DD system. Other areas included: having someone to listen and understand the family's needs and concerns; and better transition out of 0-3 services.

Some ICC members noted that there might have been some confusion in answering the survey questions. (For example, if the family did not know their FRC they could not answer the questions that were based on knowing your FRC). Cassie Johnston noted the survey

provided by ITEIP will be utilized by the Family Leadership Team to create upcoming surveys for next year.

Also noted by KCICC: For multiple languages, it would be important to have a one-liner introduction in multiple languages on all mailings to parents indicating they could get the announcement in their language. Easier access to addresses via databases for mailing is needed get information to parents. There is also no area in the State ITEIP database to know if a family is literate and in what language. Further there is an inconsistency among providers in getting information to parents. Parents are inundated with paperwork and there is a need for personal face-to-face contact and email via different sources (Parent to Parent, etc). It would be helpful to change title/description of Conversation with Families as noted by several families. These suggestions will be incorporated into the planning process and KCICC work plan.

### **Operations Committee**

Sandy Duncan

- Announcements of new member applicants: Charlene Robbins (parent) and Cathy Murahashi (ARC Parent Coalition Assistant/parent). Note that Amy Young (parent) regrettably resigned due to family obligations. Move to approve Cathy Murahashi made by Sandy Duncan. Motion seconded by Marianna Klon. Move to approve Charlene Robbins made by Aileen Hammar. Motion seconded by Cheryl Buettemeier. Gusty Lee Bouleware will be replacing Susan Sandall while Susan is teaching a class.
- Nomination of Co-Chairs: Marianna Klon has offered to to replace Susan Sandall as KCICC Chair. Thank you Susan for chairing the Council so well and for so long. Motion made by Jane Campbell. Motion seconded by Kari Tanta. Sandy Duncan is working on finding a parent Co-chair.
- Move of ICC: Marianna Klon brought the idea of the KCICC moving or co-existing with the King County DD board to the DD Board at the October meeting. There were no objections just questions on how this would function. The DD Board has the opportunity for the KCICC to access more visibility, support and collaboration. Jan Wrathall noted that the DSHS is creating Self Determination Councils which may provide an opportunity for the KCICC also. It was recommended that an ad-hoc committee be formed to evaluate what formal partnerships the KCICC might make and present their ideas at the March meeting. Jane Campbell, Laura Blankinship and Marianna Klon offered to be on this ad-hoc committee.

### **Staff Reports**

- Rachel Petty will represent FRC training issues at the State FRC Advisory meeting on February 13<sup>th</sup>. This is an invitee only meeting.
- Future dates for KCICC meetings: Try new evening meeting for 6 months. It was noted that the availability of daycare is especially important for families. It was suggested that meetings be held every other month and have the alternate months for

ad-hoc and standing committee meetings. For continuity and logistical reasons, the location of the meetings will be kept the same.

- The next State ICC meeting will be held on January 22, 2003.

A request will be sent next month for March Agenda items. The main item will be the development of the KCICC work plan.

**The next meeting is March 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm at Region IV, 1700 E. Cherry Street.** A light dinner will be served, and childcare will be available. However, childcare reservations must be made in advance in order to ensure appropriate childcare staffing. Please call Community Support Services of Washington at 425-672-8787 to reserve a spot for your child(ren).

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35p.m.



This material is available in alternate formats upon request. Voice (206) 296-5214 / TDD (206) 296-5238

